(घ) आयोग का कार्यक्षेत्र क्या है और यह आयोग अपनी सिफारिशें सरकार को कब तक प्रस्तुत कर देगा ।

मानव संसाधन विकास (युवा कार्य और खेल विभाग) मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय (महिला और बाल विकास विभाग) में राज्य मंत्री का अतिरिक्त प्रभार (कुमारी ममता बैनर्जी) : (क) जी, हां । आयोग के सदस्यों के नाम निम्नानुसार हैं :–

1. सुश्री जयन्ती पटनायक	अध्यक्ष
2. सुश्री पदमा सेठ	सदस्य
3. सुश्री गंगा पोताई	सदस्य
4. सुश्री सुभाषिणी अली	सदस्य
5. सुश्री बोनोज सेनापति	सदस्य
6. सुश्री मोनिका दास	सदस्य
7. सुश्री उमा पिल्ले	सदस्य-सचिव

(ख) सदस्यों के चयन पर मिश्रित प्रतिक्रिया हुई है ।

(ग) आयोग के मुख्य कार्य हैं महिलाओं के लिए कानूनों और संविधान के अन्तर्गत उपलब्ध सुरक्षोपायों सम्बन्धी सभी मामलों की जांच करना, उनका पुनरीक्षण करना ताकि उनका कारगर ढंग से कार्यान्वयन किया जा सके और उनमें संशोधन किये जा सकें; आयोग एक ऐसी एजेंसी के रूप में कार्य करेगा जिससे कि आयोग द्वारा जीवन के प्रत्येक क्षेत्र में महिलाओं की असपान स्थिति के कारण उत्पन्न महिला शिकयतों को दूर करने के साथ-साथ देख-रेख का कार्य भी किया जा सके ।

(घ) आयोग का कार्यक्षेत्र जम्मू और काश्मीर राज्य को छोड़, संपूर्ण भारत है । आयोग, संसद के अधिनियम के अन्तर्गत गठित एक स्थायी निकाय है और इसके कार्य निरन्तर प्रकृति के हैं ।

Examination pattern introduced by CBSE

634. SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a New Examination pattern for Class X and XII Examinations has been introduced by the Central Board of Secondary Education, by setting up multiple question papers for the same examination ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In order to control mass copying and minimise the use of unfair means in the Board Examinations, it has been decided to use multiple sets of question papers in Delhi w.e.f. 1992 Examination to be conducted by the CBSE.

Regional Office of University Grants Commission at Guwahati

635. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to set up a Regional Office of University Grants Commission at Guwahati in order to facilitate liaison and communication with the universities of the North-Eastern States;

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) and (b) UGC has taken a decision, in principle, to set up its regional offices in different parts of the country. No decision on the location of these offices has been taken.

Regional Offices of U.G.C.

636. SHRI M. VINCENT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to open Regional Offices of the University Grants Commission in other parts of the country considering the large geographical distribution of the universities; and

(b) if so, by when and where the regional Offices of the University Grants Commission are likely to be located?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) and (b) UGC has taken a decision, in principle, to set up its regional offices in different parts of the country. No decision on the location or the time frame for opening of these offices has been taken.

Removing Hindi from the curriculum of Navodaya Vidyalayas

637. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to remove Hindi from the curriculum of Navodaya School to be set up in non-Hindi speaking States like Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if not, whether Government propose to provide funds for setting up Navodaya Schools to the States which do not have these schools ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) There is no such provision in the scheme to provide funds to the States.

Higher education and universal primary education

638. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are spending a disproportionate amount on higher education at the expense of fulfilling the objective of universal primary education ;

(b) if so, the details of the expenditure on higher education and primary education at present; and

(c) the action Government propose to take to achieve the goal of universal primary education in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) and (b) Central and State Government expenditure on Higher Education including Technical Education was Rs. 10043 crores during the Seventh Plan (1985-90). The corresponding expenditure for Elementary Education was Rs. 23582 crores. In terms of percentage, Higher Education including Technical Education works out to 19.2% and Elementary Education 45.1% of the total budgeted expenditure on Education.

(c) Some of the main steps taken to universalise elementary education are :

(i) The provision of education upto elementary stage free of tuition fee in the Government schools in the country;

(ii) The provision of primary schools within 1 km. walking distance of all habitations with a population of 300. In the case of SC/ST habitations, the norm is relaxed to include habitations with population of 200;

(iii) Provision of incentives such as free uniform, free textbooks, attendance scholarship for girls, mid-day meals to SC/ST children and girls;

(iv) Improvement of physical facilities in primary schools under the centrally sponsored scheme of Operation Blackboard;

(v) Establishment of District Institutes of Education and Training for improving teacher effectiveness; and

(vi) Provison of part-time non-formal education to school drop-outs, girls and working children.

Sites of Mahabharat discovered in Morena, Madhya Pradesh

639. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some ancient sites of Mahabharat era have been found in Morena district of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so,, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to undertake excavation at other places also in the State ;

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard ; and

(e) what action Government have taken to preserve these sites of archaeological importance?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI, ARJUN SINGH) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, exploration of the ancient sites of villages Kutwar, Sihoniya, Tutwas ?